

REMARKS

Applicants have reviewed, and carefully considered the non-final Office Action dated May 17, 2005. Claims 11, 17 and 18 have been amended and claims 1-10, 12, 16 and 20-22 have been canceled. Claims 11, 13-15 and 17-19 are pending.

In paragraph 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

In paragraph 6 on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-15 and 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Menon (U.S. Patent No. 6,397,229) in view of Tuma (U.S. Patent No. 5,070,474).

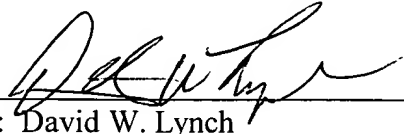
Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections, but in the interest of expediting prosecution have amended the claims to overcome the rejections. Applicants appreciate Examiner Thai's indication of allowability of claims 16-19. Applicants have amended claim 11 to include the limitations of depending claims 12 and 16. Claims 17 and 18 have been amended to correct their dependency and claims 12 and 16 have been canceled. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 11, 13-15 and 17-19 are in immediate condition for allowance.

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of this application and its allowance are requested. Please charge/credit Deposit Account No. 50-0996 (IBMS.002PA) for any deficiencies/overpayments.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' attorney of record, David W. Lynch at 651-686-6633 Ext 116.

Respectfully submitted,

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